

**In the claims:**

Please **amend** the currently pending claims by substituting the following:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A signal processing method comprising:

an adjusting step of ~~subjecting a sound signal that is input, to processing of adjusting~~ causing a plurality of adjusting devices that are arranged in series at a plurality of adjusting points on each of a plurality of signal paths along which sound signals that are input are transmitted, to adjust at least one of sound volume and sound quality of a corresponding one of the input sound signals at a the plurality of metering adjusting points on a signal path along which the input sound signal is transmitted each of the plurality of signal paths along which the corresponding input signal is transmitted;

a synthesizing step of causing a bus device that is connected to an output side of the plurality of signal paths, to synthesize the input sound signals that have been adjusted by the adjusting devices on the plurality of signal paths and outputted from the plurality of signal paths;

a condition determining step of determining whether the corresponding input sound signal satisfies a condition that a level of the corresponding input sound signal exceeds a predetermined value at each of ~~the~~ a plurality of metering points on the signal path each of the plurality of signal paths along which the corresponding input sound signal is transmitted, wherein each of the adjusting points are arranged in between two adjacent ones of the plurality of metering points; and

an alarm display step of ~~displaying~~ causing an alarm display device that is arranged on each of the plurality of signal paths to display an alarm when said condition determining step determines that the input sound signal satisfies the condition at least one of the plurality of metering points on each of said plurality of signal paths.

## Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (currently amended) A signal processing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~the sound signal comprises a plurality of sound signals input for~~ the plurality of signal paths transmit the input sound signals for a plurality of channels, respectively, and said plurality of metering points are provided on a the signal path of each of the plurality of channels along which a corresponding one of the input sound signals is transmitted.

Claim 4 (currently amended) A signal processing method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the plurality of metering points on the signal path along which the corresponding input sound signal is transmitted include at least first and second metering points, the method further comprising:

a first display step of displaying a level of the sound signal at the first metering point on a first screen; and

a second display step of displaying a level of the sound signal at the second metering point on a second screen,

wherein ~~the alarm is displayed on the first and second screen by said alarm display step~~ when said condition determining step determines that the corresponding input sound signal satisfies the condition at the first metering point, said alarm display step displays the alarm on the first screen, and when said condition determining step determines that the corresponding input sound signal satisfies the condition at the second metering point, said alarm display step displays the alarm on the second screen.

Claim 5 (currently amended) A program executed by a computer, comprising:

an adjusting module for ~~subjecting a sound signal that is input, to processing of adjusting~~  
causing a plurality of adjusting devices that are arranged in series at a plurality of adjusting points  
on each of a plurality of signal paths along which sound signals that are input are transmitted, to  
adjust at least one of sound volume and sound quality of a corresponding one of the input sound  
signals at a the plurality of metering adjusting points on a signal path along which the input sound  
signal is transmitted each of the plurality of signal paths along which the corresponding input signal  
is transmitted;

a synthesizing module for causing a bus device that is connected to an output side of the  
plurality of signal paths, to synthesize the input sound signals that have been adjusted by the  
adjusting devices on the plurality of signal paths and outputted from the plurality of signal paths;

a condition determining module for determining whether the corresponding input sound  
signal satisfies a condition that a level of the corresponding input sound signal exceeds a  
predetermined value at each of ~~the~~ a plurality of metering points on the signal path each of the  
plurality of signal paths along which the corresponding input sound signal is transmitted, wherein  
each of the adjusting points are arranged in between two adjacent ones of the plurality of metering  
points; and

an alarm display module for ~~displaying~~ causing an alarm display device that is arranged on  
each of the plurality of signal paths to display an alarm when said condition determining module  
determines that the input sound signal satisfies the condition at least one of the plurality of metering  
points on each of said plurality of signal paths.

Claim 6 (currently amended) A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a plurality of signal paths along which sound signals that are input are transmitted;

~~an adjusting device that subjects a sound signal that is input, to processing of adjusting a~~  
plurality of adjusting devices that are arranged in series at a plurality of adjusting points on each of  
said plurality of signal paths, for adjusting at least one of sound volume and sound quality of a  
corresponding one of the input sound signals at a the plurality of metering adjusting points on a  
~~signal path along which the input sound signal is transmitted~~ each of said plurality of signal paths  
along which the corresponding input signal is transmitted;

a bus device that synthesizes the input sound signals that have been adjusted by said  
adjusting devices on said plurality of signal paths and outputted from said plurality of signal paths;

a condition determining device that ~~determines~~ is arranged on each of said plurality of signal  
paths, for determining whether the input sound signal satisfies a condition that a level of the sound  
signal exceeds a predetermined value at each of ~~the a~~ a plurality of metering points on the signal path  
each of said plurality of signal paths along which the corresponding input sound signal is  
transmitted, wherein each of the adjusting points are arranged in between two adjacent ones of the  
plurality of metering points; and

an alarm display device that ~~displays~~ is arranged on each of said plurality of signal paths, for  
displaying an alarm when said condition determining device determines that the input sound signal  
satisfies the condition at least one of the plurality of metering points on each of said plurality of  
signal paths.

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (new) A signal processing apparatus as claimed in claim 6, wherein the plurality of metering points on the signal path along which the corresponding input sound signal is transmitted include at least first and second metering points, the apparatus further comprising:

a first display device that displays a level of the sound signal at the first metering point on a first screen; and

a second display device that displays a level of the sound signal at the second metering point on a second screen,

wherein when said condition determining device determines that the corresponding input sound signal satisfies the condition at the first metering point, said alarm display device displays the alarm on the first screen, and when said condition determining device determines that the corresponding input sound signal satisfies the condition at the second metering point, said alarm display device displays the alarm on the second screen.